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Message Text

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70
ACTION AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 EB-11 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08

TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 OMB-01 SCI-06

SCEM-02 DRC-01 /178 W
---------- 098787
R 151826Z JAN 74
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4962

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PASS USDA/FAS FROM AGATTACHE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR
SUBJECT: ENERGY SITUATION

REF STATE 5278

INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS TELEGRAM OBTAINED FROM DIRECTING MANAGER OF PETROSUR, ONLY FERTILIZER PRODUCING PLANT CURRENTLY EXISTING IN ARGENTINA.

1. ESTIMATED DOMESTIC PRODUCTION CAPACITY 1972-75:

	1972	1973	1974	1975
	METRIC TONS			
AMMONIA	54,600	66,000	N.A.	89,100
UREA	61,000	62,500	70,000	107,000
AMMONIUM SULPHATE	47,700	60,000	N.A.	75,000 1/
MIXED FERTILIZERS OF NPK	21,000	40,000	N.A.	100,000 2/

1/ INCLUDES 15,000 MT FROM PLANNED EXPANSION OF PRESENT FACILITIES.
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2/ INCLUDES 60,00 MT FROM PRODUCING PLANTS OTHER THAN PETROSUR.

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2. SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION:

	1971-72			1972-73		
	N	P	K	N	P	K
	000 MT OF NUTRIENTS					
(1) PRODUCTION	99.9	10.0	-	130.0	12.0	-
(2) IMPORTS	8.6	30.1	12.9	7.0	34.0	8.5
(3) EXPORTS	2.6	-	-	60.0	-	-
(4) CONSUMPTION	44.7	23.4	8.0	56.6	46.0	8.3

	1973-74			1974-75		
(1) PRODUCTION	180.0	15.0	-	262.0	17.0	-
(2) IMPORTS	8.0	49.0	9.0	6.0	70.0	10.0
(3) EXPORTS	115.0	-	-	180.0	-	-
(4) CONSUMPTION	62.4	64.0	8.8	68.5	87.0	9.2

(5) NO RELIABLE FIGURES AVAILABLE ON STOCKS. HOWEVER SINCE LARGE PROPORTION OF PHOSPHATES AND ENTIRE REQUIREMENTS OF POTASIUM MUST BE IMPORTED IS ASSUMED THAT IMPORTS ARE MADE AS REQUIRED AND STOCKS ARE INSIGNIFICANT. BOTH DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION FIGURES FOR NITROGEN ARE PROJECTIONS BY COMPANY OFFICIALS AND IT IS ASSUMED MOST OF EXCESS OF PRODUCTION OVER LOCAL REQUIREMENTS WILL BE EXPORTED.

3. AVERAGE FERTILIZER PRICES TO FARMERS. PRICES OF FERTILIZER ARE FROZEN BY GOA AT FOLLOWING LEVELS FOB PLANT:

	PESOS PER MT 1/
AMMONIUM SULPHATES	721
UREA	1,298
TRIPLE 14 (14-14-14)	1,197
12-6-12-6 (LAST FIGURE REFERS TO MAGNESIUM)	1,016
10-15-15 (FOR TOBACCO)	1,089
TRIPLE CALCIUM SUPERPHOSPHATE	1,611
DIAMMONIUM PHOSPHATE 18-46-0	1,720
POTASIUM CHLORIDE (60 PERCENT OF POTASIUM)	1,067
POTASIUM SULPHATE	1,471

1/ FINANCIAL RATE 9.93 PESOS EQUALS US $1.00.

4. DIRECTING MANAGER OF PETROSUR ESTIMATED USE OF FERTILIZER ON NUTRIENT BASIS WOULD INCREASE FROM 135,200 MT IN 1973-74 TO 164,700 MT IN 1974-75. MOST FERTILIZERS ARE USED FOR FRUITS, TRUCK CROPS AND DURUM WHEAT IN THE SOUTH OF

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BUENOS AIRES PROVINCE. SMALL QUANTITIES BEING USED ON PERMANENT PASTURES. APPLICATION OF ONLY 135,200 MT OF FERTILIZER ON SOME 50.0 MILLION ACRES OF CROPLAND NOT EXPECTED TO SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECT EITHER EXPORT AVAILABILITIES AND/OR IMPORT REQUIREMENTS OF MORE SIGNIFICANT AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

5. THE GDP OF ARGENTINA IN 1972 WAS $19.8 BILLION, 1973 IS ESTIMATED AT $20.8 BILLION AND 1974 IS FORECAST AT 21.8 BILLION.
KREBS

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